

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine
Committee on Acupuncture
200 Harvard Mill Square Suite 330
Wakefield, Massachusetts 01880
(781) 876-8210

INITIAL CHINESE HERBAL THERAPY REQUEST FORM

Print Name: _____

Important note to the applicant: This form is intended for initial requests to employ Chinese Herbal Therapy only. For more information about how to maintain authorization to employ Chinese Herbal Therapy upon renewal of licensure, please refer to the Information Sheet on Page 2. Please note that you may not employ herbs in your acupuncture practice until you have received written authorization from the Committee on Acupuncture ("COA") to do so.

I, _____ (full name), hereby request COA authorization to employ Chinese Herbal Therapy, including patent or raw herbs, in my acupuncture practice. I have included documentation of the following:

- a. completion of an ACAOM accredited or candidate status oriental medicine program with a minimum of 1,905 hours of clinical/didactic training, of which at least 660 hours were training hours in herbs and at least 210 of those were clinical hours in acupuncture and herbs*; and
- b. certification by NCCAOM in Chinese Herbology.

*Please request that your Oriental Medicine program submit verification of your herbal training hours and clinical hours directly to the Licensing Division of the Committee on Acupuncture at the following address:

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Committee on Acupuncture
200 Harvard Mill Square, Suite 330
Wakefield, MA 01880

Applicant Certification

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts that all statements made on this Initial Chinese Herbal Therapy Request Form are accurate. I also certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts that if the answer I have given above changes I shall notify, in writing, the Committee on Acupuncture within 30 days of the change.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Chinese Herbal Therapy Information Sheet

Acupuncture practitioners seeking to employ Chinese Herbal Therapy in their acupuncture practices must obtain the express, written authorization of the Committee on Acupuncture (“COA”) prior to commencing the practice of herbology. **It is very important to keep in mind that a full license to practice acupuncture is distinct from written authorization of the COA to employ Chinese Herbal Therapy in connection with one’s acupuncture practice.**

Please see below to learn more about obtaining initial authorization to employ Chinese Herbal Therapy in your acupuncture practice or, if you were previously authorized by the COA to employ herbs, how to maintain your authorization.

Individuals Licensed to Practice Acupuncture On Any Date and CURRENTLY SEEKING Authorization to Employ Herbs

An individual who seeks initial authorization of the COA to employ Chinese Herbal Therapy after January 1, 2009, regardless of when he or she was licensed to practice acupuncture, must submit evidence of each of the following:

- 1 Completion of an ACAOM accredited or candidate status oriental medicine program with a minimum of 1,905 hours of clinical/didactic training, of which at least 660 hours were training hours in herbs and at least 210 of those were clinical hours in acupuncture and herbs; and
- 2 Certification by NCCAOM in Chinese Herbology.

See 243 CMR 5.03(2)(h).

Individuals Licensed to Practice Acupuncture and Previously Authorized to Employ Chinese Herbal Therapy

An individual who requested and was granted express authorization to employ Chinese Herbal Therapy must comply with all continuing education requirements in order to maintain such authorization upon renewal of licensure.

(1) Continuing Education Requirements.

All licensees approved by the Committee to use herbal therapy in their practice of acupuncture must have at least 10 hours of training directly related to Herbology as part of their 30 hours of continuing education credits. In addition, the licensee must have at least 15 hours of continuing acupuncture education credits directly related to acupuncture. In no event shall the applicant use herbal therapy in his/her acupuncture practice unless the applicant has at least 30 hours of continuing acupuncture education biennially, of which five hours may be indirectly related to acupuncture or herbology.

See 243 CMR 5.03(2)(i).